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Carter's Indiscretions

Former intelligence officers who write and lecture in retirement are irked at Jimmy Carter. In his memoirs, the former president had divulged espionage secrets in a manner which might have resulted in prosecution if revealed by CIA chiefs bound by secrecy oaths. Carter described, for instance, details of a swap worked out with the Soviet Union to release five Russian dissidents from prison in exchange for two KGB operatives convicted in New York. One former, very senior intelligence officer described the revelation as "an indiscretion"; others have used saltier language. Even top former clandestine managers—such as Admiral Stansfield Turner and William Colby—are obligated to clear their accounts of history before publication, or face the consequences. *Colby, in fact, was hit with a \$10,000 fine when a French edition of his memoirs inadvertently printed an item Colby had deleted at CIA request from the U.S. edition of his book.*

Wilson Incident's Ripples

The Association of Former Intelligence Officers proposed a new code of conduct for espionage operatives recently, one "ensuring that intelligence professionals at all levels of authority are exposed to the principles of law and ethics so that in every endeavor they can clearly define the connections between their actions and those principles." The CIA has promulgated a similar in-house code. This concern comes in the murky wake of the indictment of Edwin Wilson, the renegade CIA agent who has embarrassed the intelligence fraternity. *Says one former friend and colleague of Wilson: "He deserved a fair trial. Now that he's had it, I hope the bum rots in jail."*